

Conference for Food Protection Strategic Plan

Conference for Food Protection Vision

The Conference for Food Protection strives for consistency and continuous improvement in the retail sector of our national food safety system through collaboration and consensus with all food safety partners.

Conference for Food Protection Mission

Though Federal, State, and local governments are primarily responsible for establishing retail food safety laws and ordinances, many other organizations share a stake in carrying out enforcement of the laws and ordinances. The Conference for Food Protection brings together representatives from the food industry, government, academia, and consumer organizations to identify and address current and emerging problems affecting retail food safety as part of a system to formulate recommendations for change. The Conference seeks to balance the interests of regulatory, consumer, academia, and industry while providing an open forum for the consideration of ideas from any source. The Conference meets biennially to provide this forum. Though the Conference has no formal regulatory authority, it is a powerful organization that profoundly influences model laws and regulations among all government agencies and minimizes disparate interpretations and implementation.

Organizational Structure

The Conference is managed by an Executive Board that includes 23 voting members who represent: State food regulatory agencies from each of the FDA regions; local food regulatory agencies from each of the FDA regions; the FDA; USDA/FSIS; US CDC, the food industry; an academic institution; and consumers. In addition, the Board includes non-voting ex officio members as follows: The Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the three Councils; the Program Chair(s); the Issue Chair(s); a Canadian representative; the Past Conference President; and the Executive Director, Executive Treasurer and the Executive Assistant.

Three Councils provide forums for deliberating the impact of food-related laws and regulations (Council I); developing various administrative, education and certification guidelines and procedures (Council II); and discussing the science and technology of food safety issues (Council III). Separate committees in each discipline may be appointed to study and review issues and make recommendations to each Council at succeeding Biennial Meetings. Active membership provides opportunities for participation by regulators, industry members, consumers, academics, and professional organizations. Non-voting advisors and a parliamentarian are available to each Council to offer needed advice. Councils deliberate Issues and recommend actions to the Assembly of State Delegates.

The Assembly of State Delegates through the Executive Board forwards recommended issues to the agency(ies) for consideration and implementation.

Strategic Planning Committee Mission

The mission of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP) Strategic Planning Committee is to advise the CFP Executive Board on the current and future direction for CFP and make recommendations to keep the CFP relevant and increase the viability and growth of the organization.

Objectives

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) will actively engage CFP committees and the Executive Board by:

1. Positioning CFP to respond to changes in the business and regulatory environment by staying abreast of changing needs to keep CFP a viable and relevant organization.
2. Assessing member satisfaction, exploring ways to increase membership, improving communication with members and responding to membership's changing expectations of CFP, its programs, services and the Biennial meeting.
3. Finding ways for CFP to collaborate/partner with organizations that hold similar values and interests in retail food safety.
4. Sustaining the financial stability of CFP by seeking new, increased, or alternative sources of funding.

Action Steps

Objective 1

Positioning CFP to respond to changes in the business and regulatory environment by staying abreast of changing needs to keep CFP a viable and relevant organization.

- a. Ensure relevant and current retail food safety, or related information is shared with membership.
- b. Develop virtual roundtables to share/disseminate important information on issues and trends

Objective 2

Assessing member satisfaction, exploring ways to increase membership, improving communication with members and responding to membership's changing expectations of CFP, its programs, services and the Biennial meeting.

- a. Navigator Program
- b. Surveys/After conference/workshop evaluations
- c. Promote at other professional meetings
- d. Social Media

Objective 3

Finding ways for CFP to collaborate/partner with organizations that hold similar values and interests in retail food safety

- a. Outreach to other organizations (regulatory/industry)
- b. Present/promote CFP at other professional organization's meetings

Objective 4

Sustaining the financial stability of CFP by seeking new, increased, or alternative sources of funding.

- a. Grants
- b. Recurring/non-recurring donations through focused campaigns